

AVENUE SPARKLE

Walthamstow Avenue 2, Wycombe Wanderers 0—By Mick Kelly

ON Saturday Walthamstow Avenue chalked up their best win of the season when they floored league champions Wycombe Wanderers.

It was a remarkable achievement which seemed to surprise even the home crowd at Green Pond Road.

For Wycombe had not only won all six opening games this season but had failed to concede a goal.

But Delroy Rhoden blotted their copy book in the second half and Avenue captain Brian Wilson rammed home the second goal just to put the result beyond doubt.

By the final whistle As had proved themselves worthy conquerors of Isthmian League Goliaths. The defence was as tight as a drum and only a shot against the bar and one break down the middle penetrated their defensive blanket.

Roger Redman played with authority at the back. His confident back passes to goalkeeper John Payne and accurate distribution held the As together.

L: was further upfield

that Avenue found problems. Plonker Jackson was brought in for Andy McDermid as the major change after their defeat at Hendon. And leading goalscorer Johnny Oliver was busy getting married so his place was taken by Alan Carrington.

Plonker adds extra height to the attack and wins balls in the air, but he looked just a little slow running at the Wycombe defence.

Alan Carrington made the more positive return to the team contributing to the second goal with his text-book corner.

The ball swung in and big Brian Wilson rose high to nod the ball in.

The man who took the honours for making that all important first goal was Steve Trice. He had a quiet first half in midfield and manager Peter Carey said afterwards he was worried about collecting another caution to go with his two bookings.

But a half-time chat gave him confidence and in the 55th minute Trice went up the middle of the field beating two men. His shot was jabbed out to the right by keeper Maskell. And there was Delroy Rhoden who gratefully shot into the back of the net.

One man who took the result as a matter of fact after the match was Peter Carey.

"I expect these results now," he said. "I might be a big-head but I think we can beat these sides."

Saturday proved him right!



BUGYANT Avenue travel to Surrey tomorrow to face a Kingstonian side ravaged with injuries and bottom of the league.

They have their problems despite signing Sutton's ex-England star Ted Powell at the beginning of the season as player-coach to strengthen the back four.

But Enfield managed to put seven goals past them in Saturday's league match.

Avenue on the other hand are riding high, staying among the top six of the Isthmian League. They have no injury problems though Johnny Oliver will miss the game because he is on honeymoon.

As Peter Carey must feel obliged to play the same team that beat Wycombe with Andy McDermid and Peter White breathing hard down the neck of Brian Jackson for his place.